

**Amendments to the Specification:**

1. Please delete paragraphs [0052] through [0054] which describe Figures 10-12.

2. Please amend paragraphs [0055] through [0058] as follows:

Figure 10 ~~13~~ illustrates a front view of a further embodiment of a golf putter head 44 according to the present invention.

Figure 11 ~~14~~ illustrates a heel view of the golf putter head 44 of Figure 10 ~~13~~.

Figure 12 ~~15~~ illustrates a top view of a golf putter head 44 of Figure 10 ~~13~~.

Figure 13 ~~16~~ illustrates a bottom view of a golf putter head 44 of Figure 10 ~~13~~.

3. Please delete paragraphs [0059] through [0078].

4. Please delete paragraph [0095] which begins with "Figures 10-12 show another embodiment".

5. Please amend paragraphs [0096] as follows:

Figures 10-13 ~~13-16~~ illustrate a further embodiment of the present invention, which includes weights which allow the club to be weighted for a particular golf swing. The head 44 includes an elongate flat blade 46 and a runner 48. The elongate flat blade 46 includes a first linear edge as a front edge 46A, and a second linear edge as a back edge 46B, a toe edge 46C, a heel edge 46D, a top side 46E, and a bottom side 46F. The top side 46E and bottom side 46F are parallel sides of the blade. A runner 48 is attached to the bottom side 46F of the blade 46. The runner has an inner surface 48A, an outer surface 48B, a front end 48C, and a back end 48D. The front edge 46A of the blade 46 is the striking face for contacting the golf ball 20 between the ends defined by toe edge 46C and heel edge 46D, and the parallel sides of the top side 46E and bottom side 46F. The distal end 12B of shaft 12 is attached to the top side 46E of blade 46 such that the projection of the shaft 12 onto the vertical plane through the front edge 46A of the blade 46 is  $10^{\circ}$  or more. In further embodiments, the shaft 12 is attached to the blade 46 such that the projection of the shaft 12 upon a vertical plane through the toe edge 46C of the blade 46 is  $20^{\circ}$  or less. The elongate flat blade 46 is attached to the distal end 12B of the shaft 12 near front edge 46A at the center of the length of front edge 46A between toe edge 46C and heel edge 46D. The distal end 12B of shaft 12 is attached to the blade 46 at or near the area of

anticipated contact of the blade 46 to the ball 20. In other embodiments, the shaft 12 is attached to the top side 46E of the blade 46 through a single plain neck or socket. The length along the neck or socket axis in these embodiments, following any bends, is approximately 5.0 inches (127 mm) or less. The dimensions may vary. The overall length of the putter 10 from proximal end 12A of the shaft 12 to the outer surface 48B of runner 48 is at least approximately 18 inches (457 mm).

6. Please delete paragraphs [0099] which begins with "Figures 17-20 show still a further embodiment" through paragraph [0111].

7. Please amend paragraphs [0112] and [0113] as follows:

The putter heads 15, ~~32~~, 44, ~~51, 61, 75, 85, 93~~ and ~~215~~ described are of narrow width, while the body can be more conventional in size. The heads 15, ~~32~~, 44, ~~51, 61, 75, 85, 93~~ and ~~215~~ have a contact area between the blades 16, ~~36~~, 46, ~~56, 66, 76, 86, 96~~ and ~~216~~, and the golf ball 20 which are linear, and of narrow width. The contact area 24 on the golf ball 20 is horizontal in orientation. Additionally, the contact area 24 on the

ball 20 usually spans the dimple 22 diameter. While not wishing to be held to any one theory, the contact area 24 allows the reduction in the release time of the ball from the front and thereby the ball starts rolling in less time. Additionally, the horizontal and linear contact area 24 geometry can create a dominant resultant direction of the ball to one plane, while with conventional putters the contact area (not shown) is circular which thereby allows for 360° of directional course tracking of the ball.

Another aspect of the putter is that the shaft 12 is attached directly to the elongate flat blades 16, 36, 46, ~~56, 66, 76, and 86,~~ at or near the area of anticipated contact of the blade 16, 36, 46, ~~56, 66, 76, 86 and 216,~~ to the ball 20. This is in contrast to the typical putter which has a connection at some distance from the contact site where it is attached to some part of the body of the putter. This customary connection requires the force of impact to travel through the mass of the club head material prior to entering the shaft of the putter, thus reducing the feel of the contact. The elongate flat blade putter heads 15, 32, 44, ~~51, 61, 75,~~

~~85 and 215~~ intimate connection to the anticipated site of contact produces faster transmission of force of the impact to the golfer's hands. This produces an improved "feel" which is an important component of putting proficiency. This feature will be visibly evident on some models of the elongate flat putter by creating a circumferential space between the mass of the putter head and the shaft of the putter giving the appearance of being countersunk.

8. Please delete paragraph [0114] which begins with "The surrounding body".

9. Please amend paragraph [0115] as follows:

A shaft ~~12, 112~~ can be of any type, including a "belly putter" type (not shown), which is longer than a traditional putter, and allows for a style of putting where the proximal end of the putter is stabilized on the player's belly. In some embodiments, the shaft ~~12, 112~~ can be of a long putter type (not shown). In some embodiments, the shaft ~~12, 112~~ is of a traditional short length, at least longer than approximately 18 inches (457 mm). In further still embodiments, the shaft ~~12, 112~~ is relatively long (not shown), which makes it ideal for a pendulum style of golf stroke.

10. Please amend paragraphs [0117] as follows:

A golf putter 10 was constructed using a commercially available shaft 12 and grip 14. The head 15 was constructed as illustrated in Figures 2-5. The putter blade 16 and runner 18 were constructed from steel plate. The top side 16E of the flat blade 16 was welded to the distal end of a chromed steel shaft 12. Upon the bottom side 16F of the blade 16 a steel runner 18 was welded to the bottom side of the blade. ~~Another golf putter was constructed using a commercially available shaft 12 and grip 14. The head 32 as illustrated in Figures 10-12 was constructed by embedding a steel blade 36 in a solid rectangular wooden block which served as the putter body 34. The distal end of the shaft 12 penetrated the top surface 34E of the body 34 and was welded to the top side 36E of the blade 36.~~

11. Please amend paragraph [0118] as follows:

Putting with a conventional putter or one with a round surface produced a circular area of contact on the putter and ball, while putting with a sand iron has the potential to create a horizontal linear pattern of contact on the blade and the ball 20. Putting with the elongate flat blade putter head 15, ~~32~~ created a contact area 24 on the ball which was horizontal and linear. The stroke feel was great, and distance control was surprising. The geometry of the elongate flat blade 16, ~~36, 46, 56, 66, 76, 86, 96 and 216~~ allows for various angles of approach and positions of contact (Figures 7A-7C). The elongate flat blade 16, ~~36, 46, 56, 66, 76, 86, 96 and 216~~ can strike the ball 20 along the center of the ball 20 (Figure 7A) or off-center of the ball 20 (Figure 7B). The angle of approach allows control of roll of the ball 20. Striking the ball 20 in upward (Figure 7D) or downward (Figure 7C) angles of approach resulted in straight tracking of the ball, especially when compared to conventional putters. There was surprisingly little bounce when striking the ball 20 in upward (Figure 7B) or downward (Figure 7D) angles of approach. The putter 10 worked well off the fringe of the green. For some golfers, there was a smoother roll when a forward press was used.